A1

C_{6-10}aryl, C_{1-6}alkyl(CO)(C_{1-6})alkyl-O-, HO(CO)(C_{1-6})alkyl, mono-(C_{6-10}aryl)(C_{1-6}alkyl), di-(C_{6-10}aryl)(C_{1-6}alkyl) or tri-(C_{6-10}aryl)(C_{1-6}alkyl); and R^3 is para-nitrobenzyl or allyl, preferably allyl; with a suitable deprotecting agent in the presence of a solvent.

Amend the paragraph beginning at Page 5, line 9 as follows:

A2

The term "cycloalkyl", as used herein, unless otherwise indicated, includes a mono or bicyclic carbocyclic ring (e.g., cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cycloheptal, cyclooctyl, cyclononyl, bicyclo[2.2.1]heptanyl, bicyclo[3.2.1]octanyl and bicyclo[5.2.0]nonanyl, etc.); optionally substituted by 1 to 3 suitable substituents as defined below such as fluoro, chloro, trifluoromethyl, (C_{1-4})alkoxy, (C_{6-10})aryloxy, trifluoromethoxy, difluoromethoxy or (C_{1-4})alkyl, more preferably fluoro, chloro, methyl, ethyl or methoxy.

Add the following after Page 5, line 15;

A3

-- The term "cycloalkenyl," as used herein, unless otherwise indicated, includes a monocarbocyclic ring (e.g., cyclopentenyl, cyclohexenyl, cycloheptenyl, cyclooctenyl, cyclononenyl, etc.) optionally substituted by 1 to 3 suitable substituents as defined below such as fluoro, chloro, trifluoromethyl, (C_{1-4})alkoxy, (C_{6-10})aryloxy trifluoromethoxy, difluoromethoxy or (C_{1-4})alkyl, more preferably fluoro, chloro, methyl, ethyl or methoxy. --

IN THE CLAIMS:

A4

1 (Amended): A process for preparing a 3-cyclic-ether-substituted cephalosporin of the formula I: